

REMARKS

The claims now pending in the application are Claims 1, 2 and 4 to 13, the independent claims being Claims 1, 7, 12 and 13. Claim 3 has been canceled herein. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9 and 11 to 13 have been amended herein.

In the Official Action dated June 5, 2003, Claims 1, 2, 4, 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,122,006 (Bogdanowicz) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,457,491 (Mowry), and Claims 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as unpatentable over the Bogdanowicz '006 patent and the Mowry '491 patent, further in view of the Furukawa publication (Super High Definition Image Digitizing System; 1992). The drawings were objected to on formal grounds. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection and rejections respectfully are requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Initially, Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that the application contains allowable subject matter, and that Claims 3 and 7 to 11 are allowable over the prior art of record.

In this regard, without conceding the propriety of the rejections, and solely to advance prosecution of the application to issue, Claim 3 has been cancelled and Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9 and 11 to 13 have been amended herein more clearly to recite various novel features of the present invention indicated as allowable by the Examiner. No new matter has been added.

Specifically, allowable dependent Claim 7 has been rewritten in independent form, as suggested by the Examiner, and is believed in condition for allowance.

Each of independent Claims 1, 12 and 13 has been amended to recite the features of allowable Claim 3; accordingly, Applicants believe that Claims 1, 12, and 13 are allowable over the prior art. Prior independent Claim 5 has been amended to depend from amended Claim 1.

For the above reasons, Applicants submit that independent Claims 1, 7, 12 and 13 are allowable over the prior art.

Claims 2, 4 to 6 and 8 to 11 depend from independent Claims 1 and 7, respectively, and are believed allowable for the same reasons. Moreover, each of these dependent claims recites additional features in combination with the features of its respective base claim, and is believed allowable in its own right. Individual consideration of the dependent claims respectfully is requested.


In formal matters, by separate paper filed concurrently herewith, Applicants have submitted corrected formal drawings including proposed amendments to correct various spelling errors in the drawings, including those noted by the Examiner in the Official Action. Accordingly, Applicants believe the formal drawing objection is overcome.

The specification has been reviewed and amended to correct a number of formal matters, including spelling, grammar, syntax, and idiomatic English errors. No new matter has been added.

Applicants believe the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the outstanding Official Action, and submit that the application is in allowable form. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the subject application at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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FIG. 10

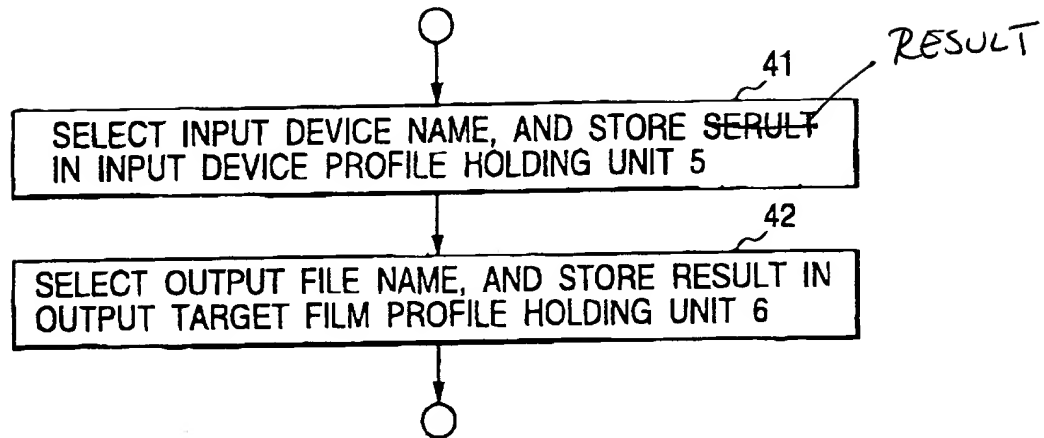




FIG. 11

